

U.S. Link to UAR Weakens as Nasser Hits Aid Policy

CAIRO (AP)—Relations between the United Arab Republic and the United States appeared to be taking a new turn for the worse today, the 13th anniversary of the revolution that brought Gamal Abdel Nasser to power.

President Nasser charged Washington with making "astounding" demands on his government in return for U.S. aid.

The government news agency accused Bruce Taylor Odell, 27, political attache of the U.S. Embassy in Cairo, of being an agent of the Central Intelligence Agency and said he got information harmful to Egypt's security from Cairo editor Mustafa Amin. Amin was arrested in Alexandria last weekend.

Speaking at a rally in downtown Cairo, Nasser said the United Arab Republic "faced many political and economic pressures from the United States. As the United States gave Egypt essential aid of wheat shipments, relations improved in 1959 and 1960, but as the wheat supplies increased, then began the pressure basically concerning Israel."

U. S. Request Described

Late in 1963, he asserted, the United States asked the U.A.R. not to produce nuclear weapons, to stop production of missiles, to freeze the size of the Egyptian army and to allow American officials to make inspections to assure the agreement was being carried out.

"I was astonished by these demands. Why not simply announce our country was an American colony?" he told the cheering crowd.

Nasser said the U.S. aid agreement, which has expired, totaled 80 million pounds (\$184.4 million), "but we are not ready to sell our country, to depend on the United States for our existence and obey orders."

The government news agency said Amin, editor of the nationalized newspaper Akhbar Alyom, was picked up as he handed a weekly report to Odell.

Odell, the agency said, was released. The report did not say whether Odell would be expelled.

The U.S. Embassy had no comment.

Questioning Confirmed

The State Department in Washington confirmed on Wednesday a report that a U.S. Embassy officer from Cairo had been questioned in Alexandria by Egyptian police.

Reliable sources reported four more Egyptians have been arrested in connection with Amin, including two newsmen from Amin's newspaper.

The sources also reported investigators claimed they had established that the CIA was paying Amin a monthly sum for information and that at least 10,000 pounds (\$23,100) had been transferred by the CIA to Amin's bank account abroad.

Nasser today witnessed a military parade which included a flypast of what was announced as a new "supersonic Arab fighter." The parade also included Soviet supplied anti-aircraft missiles and navy rockets, shown for the first time this year.

Abortive Plot Reported

In Beirut, Lebanon, the newspaper Le Soir said Amin's arrest was connected with an abortive plot to bomb Nasser's villa in Alexandria. The newspaper did not give its source.

Le Soir said Air Force Squadron Leader Mohammed Issa Nasr seized a Russian bomber on July 16 at Maamoura Airport, but that airport control officers saw him and his confederates loading bombs aboard the plane. The plotters were challenged, resisted, and four were killed, the newspaper said.

Nasr and a companion succeeded in taking off but were shot down 40 miles west of Alexandria, Le Soir said.

Many in addition to Amin were arrested in the plot, the newspaper said, including "two high officials" and a high official of the national Defense Ministry.

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